R. (272)

## POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ISRAELI EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

-- AS A RESULT OF ITS CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION, ISRAEL DECIDED IN MARCH 1980 TO FOREGO ANY NEW MAJOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES UNTIL AFTER FY 1981, EXCEPT FOR THOSE RELATED TO THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SINAI.

-- ISRAEL HAS TOLD US IN THE PAST THAT IT MAY WISH TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL F-15 AND F-16 AIRCRAFT, AND PERHAPS SOME F-18 AIRCRAFT, TO REPLACE FIGHTER PLANES CURRENTLY IN ITS INVENTORY AS THEY REACH THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE. IN VIEW OF OUR INTENTION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FMS CREDIT ISRAEL MAY WISH TO ORDER SOME F-15S OR F-16S BEFORE THE END OF FY 81.

-- IN ADDITION, AS ISRAEL'S MODERNIZATION PLANS PROCEED, ISRAEL MAY SEEK TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL TANKS, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, AND ARTILLERY PIECES FROM US.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY F Schmeler DATE 7/2/85
RELEASABLE
EXEMPTION